

II. REMARKS

Claims 1-23 are pending. The Applicant's attorney has amended claims 1, 3, 5-7, 13-14, 16, and 19 and has added new claims 20-23. But the amendment to claim 6 does not narrow this claim. In light of the following, all of the currently pending claims are in condition for allowance, and, therefore, the Applicant's attorney requests the Examiner to withdraw all of the outstanding rejections. **But if after considering this response the Examiner does not allow all the claims, the Applicant's attorney requests that the Examiner contact him to schedule a teleconference to further the prosecution of the application.**

Rejection of Claims 1-4, 6-7, 11-15, and 17-18 Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as Being Anticipated By U.S. Patent 6,605,931 to Brooks

As discussed below, the Applicant's attorney disagrees with this rejection.

Claim 1

Claim 1 as amended recites a main-phase drive circuit having an on time and an off time that are based on a feedback signal and a transient-phase drive circuit having an on time and an off time that are based on the same feedback signal.

For example, referring, e.g., to FIG. 1 and paragraph [16] of the patent application, a main-phase drive circuit 110 has an on time and an off time that are based on a feedback signal generated by the feedback circuit 152, and a fast (transient)-phase drive circuit 130 also has an on time and an off time that are based on the same feedback signal.

In contrast, Brooks fail to disclose main-phase and transient-phase drive circuits having respective on and off times that are based on the same feedback signal.

Referring, e.g., Brooks' FIG.10, Brooks discloses a main-phase drive circuit (transistors 1004(1) and 208(1)) and a transient-phase drive circuit (transistors 1008 and 1010).

Referring, e.g., to Brooks' FIG. 13, the on and off times of the main-phase drive circuit are dictated by the signals H1 and L1 from the PWM circuit 1306(1), and the on and off times

of the transient-phase drive circuit are dictated by the signals MAX and MIN. The PWM 1306(1) generates the signals H1 and L1 in response to a feedback signal VC1 + INJ1, but the transient recovery circuit 1302 generaes the signals MAX and MIN in response to a different feedback signal V-OUT. Consequently, unlike the claimed main-phase and transient-phase drive circuits that have respective on and off times that are based on the same feedback signal, Brooks' main-phase and transient-phase drive circuits have respective on and off times that are based on different feedback signals.

Not only does Brooks fail to disclose main-phase and transient-phase drive circuits having respsective on and off times that are based on the same feedback signal, he teaches away from this claimed feature. Referring, e.g., to FIG. 13 and col. 15, lines 46 – 55, Brooks compares the feedback circuit 404, which generates the feedback signal VC1 from which the main-phase drive signals H1 and L1 are generated, with the transient recovery circuit 1302, which generates the transient-phase drive signals MAX and MIN. Specifically, Brooks states that the feedback circuit 404 does not quickly respond to transients in the output voltage V-OUT, but that the transient recovery circuit 1302 is designed to respond quickly to these transients, and to thus compensate for the slow response of the feedback circuit. Therefore, Brooks at least implies that the feedback signal VC1 does not quickly respond to transients in V-OUT, and at least further implies that if the signals MAX and MIN, and thus the on and off times of the transient-phase drive circuit (FIG. 10), were based on VC1, the transient-phase drive circuit would lack the ability to quickly respond to transients in V-OUT. Consequently, by at least implying that if his transient recovery circuit 1302 and PWM circuit 1306(1) generated MAX and MIN and H1 and L1 in response to the same feedback signal VC1 then the transient-phase drive circuit would be too slow to function as described, Brooks teaches away from main-phase and transient-phase drive circuits having respsective on and off times that are based on the same feedback signal.

Claims 2-4 and 6

These claims are patentable by virtue of their dependencies from claim 1.

Claim 7

Claim 7 is patentable for reasons similar to those discussed above in support of the patentability of claim 1.

Claims 11-12

These claims are patentable by virtue of their dependencies from claim 7.

Claims 13 and 14

These claims are patentable for reasons similar to those discussed above in support of the patentability of claim 1.

Claims 15 and 17-18

These claims are patentable by virtue of their dependencies from claim 14.

Rejection of Claims 8-10 Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as Being Obvious Over Brooks

Claims 8-10

These claims are patentable by virtue of their dependencies from claim 7.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Applicant's attorney has amended objected-to claims 5, 16, and 19 into allowable form.

Conclusion

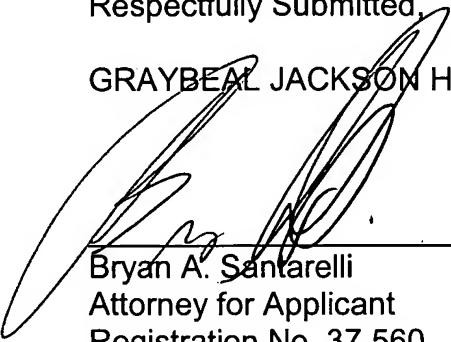
In light of the foregoing, claims 2, 4, 8-12, 15, and 17-18 as previously pending, claims 1, 3, 5-7, 13-14, 16, and 19 as amended, and new claims 20-23 are in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested.

In the event additional fees are due as a result of this amendment, payment for those fees has been enclosed in the form of a check. Should further payment be required to cover such fees you are hereby authorized to charge such payment to Deposit Account No. 07-1897.

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Respectfully Submitted,

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